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The worst thing about those New York hotel firetraps is that it is out-of-town people who get fatally burned in them.

There appears to be no doubt as to what the gentleman from South Carolina said to the other gentleman from South Carolina.

When the disfranchised colored voters consider the senatorial delegation from South Carolina they can at least congratulate themselves on the fact that they are not responsible for it.

The delay in the arrival of the Kronprinz Wilhelm and her rough weather experience at sea will probably have prepared Prince Henry for the wintry conditions he will find in New York. His warm welcome, however, will more than compensate for bad weather conditions.

To estimate at their true value the attacks and criticisms of the administration policy in the Philippines it must be remembered that it would have been just the same no matter what the administration had done. If it had done any of the things the "kickers" are now demanding that it do, they would have opposed and denounced it just the same.

The report that a large number of postal clerks receiving the lowest salaries will be given an increase after June 30 is good news. The Journal has frequently urged that, considering the nature of the service, the postal clerks should receive more pay than they do. Clerks who have made good records will receive an increase, while those who have failed to do so will not receive any benefit. This is a practical way of recognizing the best service.

When General Black in his Friday evening address said that General Grant was the real successor of General Washington he said a thing so true that every one who compares the characters, methods and characteristics of the two men will recognize it. Born under different conditions, they possessed in a high degree the same characteristics. Both reached their conclusions by the exercise of judgment, both were self-contained, and neither was moved by that uncertain sentiment called enthusiasm.

An exchange, with an air of surprise, declares that we sell to Cuba and British Australasia more merchandise than we do to China with its population of 400,000,000. There should be no surprise about this when it is remembered that the Chinese are paid the lowest wages in the world, and consequently have nothing with which to purchase. Until the conditions are changed so that the Chinese can earn more than a few cents a day this prediction of a vast trade with China is largely the work of the imagination.

The New York Municipal Art Society is exerting itself to prevent the use of advertising signs and posters in the subway to Brooklyn. It argues very properly that a billboard display in such a place is not only an offense to the taste, but an irritating distraction to the traveler and a general nuisance. As an awful example it points to the elevated roads, whose stations are made hideous and confusing by the multiplicity of flouting posters and signs. There is usually so little indication in New York of the existence of any public interest in local improvements that this movement will excite attention outside of the metropolis. The fact that such an organization as a municipal art society exists there will itself cause surprise.

Chicago clubwomen are deploring the fact that the modern child is being deprived of its childhood through being permitted too early to share the life and amusements of its elders. It goes to parties and keeps late hours, it is clothed with as much elaboration as its elders, it is given rich gifts, it attends theaters and altogether becomes mature before its time.

"The theaters are to blame for this shortening of childhood," one woman is quoted as saying, and it is a very foolish speech. If it is not well for children to go to the theater it is the parents who are to blame for letting them go. It is the parents and not others who are to blame for all the premature development of their offspring. The remedy is easy—keep the little ones away from parties, theaters and other places which involve excitement and late hours. Teach them to be contented with simple amusements, and provide such amusements for them.

faithful children of the unpolished, un-

pared variety are easily entertained. To enforce a wholesome simplicity of living in one household has its difficulties when indulgence is the rule in the households of one's friends and among the children with whom one's own must associate more or less, but it can be done if the parents will refuse to be dominated by the customs of their neighbors. The wholesome effect upon the children will make the effort worth while.

COLOR IN THE CENSUS.
A recent unauthorized statement that the colored population in the United States is increasing faster than the white population has been used in some quarters to justify measures to maintain "white man's government"—the euphemistic phrase applied to disfranchisement of negroes. The statement is not true. The last census report shows that the white population, native and foreign born, increased from 43,402,400 in 1880 to 55,565,184 in 1900, and to 66,000,788 in 1900. During the decade from 1890 to 1900 the colored population increased 1,323,001, or 18.1 per cent, while the whites during the same period increased 11,234,694, or 24.4 per cent. As these figures include all persons with any African blood, they show, if they show anything, that the negro population is losing instead of gaining ground as against the white population.

And the census report shows that the condition exists in the Southern as well as the Northern States. In what is called the South Atlantic division, including Delaware, Maryland, District of Columbia, Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and Florida, the white population increased during the last decade 19.9 per cent, while the negro population increased 14.3 per cent. In the South Central division, including the States of Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, Indian Territory, Oklahoma and Arkansas, the whites increased 20.1 per cent, and the negroes 19.9 per cent.

Putting the facts in another form, the census shows that in 1890 the whites constituted 87.5 per cent. of the entire population of the country and negroes 12.5 per cent., while in 1900 the whites were 87.8 per cent. of the whole and negroes were 12.2 per cent. In only five States and one Territory did the negroes constitute a larger per cent. of the entire population in 1900 than in 1890, and these were West Virginia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas and Oklahoma. South Carolina and Mississippi are the only two States in which the negro element predominates. In 1900 the population of South Carolina numbered 557,897 white persons and 782,321 persons of negro descent, the latter constituting 58.4 per cent. of the entire population, as against 59.8 per cent. in 1890. In the last census Mississippi had 641,200 white inhabitants and 967,620 of negro descent, the latter constituting 55.6 per cent. of the population, as against 57.6 per cent. in 1890. In 1890 the negroes were in a majority in Louisiana, but by the last census they represented only 47.1 per cent. of the entire population. Taking a broader view of the subject, the census returns of every decade since 1890 show a steady increase in the percentage of whites and a steady decrease in the percentage of colored persons, the former having increased from 80.7 per cent. of the whole in 1790 to 87.8 per cent. of the whole in 1900, and the latter having decreased from 19.3 per cent. of the whole in 1790 to 12.2 per cent. of the whole in 1900. In other words, in 1790 the negro element constituted very nearly one-fifth of the entire population of the country, while in 1900 it represented barely one-ninth of the total population.

From whatever point of view the returns of the last and of previous censuses are considered they prove that the colored population, instead of increasing more rapidly than the white, is increasing less rapidly. Whether there is any racial, sociological or economic reason for this the Journal does not undertake to say. It simply presents figures from the successive census reports. They disprove the assertion that the negro element of the population is gaining in numbers on the white element, and, of course, the justification of disfranchisement of negro citizens based on this assertion has no foundation.

HISTORY RETOLD AND CORRECTED.
In an address before the New York Historical Society, Charles Francis Adams, in claiming for the late Hamilton Fish, General Grant's secretary of state, the high place in diplomacy to which his achievements entitle him, gave the true version of the reasons which caused Charles Sumner to be deposed from the chairmanship of the Senate committee on foreign relations. This is not the first time the truth has been told regarding that matter, but Mr. Adams, who cannot be accused of partiality to General Grant, is so intelligent and reliable an investigator that his relation of the causes which led to the removal of Mr. Sumner is entitled to confidence.

At the time of the removal a majority of the leading newspapers of the country were hostile to General Grant's administration. Some of the ablest orators in the Senate were bitterly hostile to him, and a combination was forming in the Republican party to prevent the re-nomination of General Grant, or, failing in that, to defeat his election. Consequently, when Mr. Sumner's name was dropped from the head of the Senate's committee on foreign relations it was charged that General Grant had exercised his influence to induce the senators to depose Mr. Sumner because he had opposed with violent language the President's proposition to annex San Domingo.

Mr. Adams makes it clear that the President's dislike for Mr. Sumner had nothing whatever to do with his being dropped from the foreign committee. General Grant regarded the San Domingo affair as a battle fought and lost, and he was too big a man to attempt to mollify the sense of defeat by private revenge. General Grant and Secretary of State Fish were deeply interested in those negotiations with Great Britain which resulted in the treaty of Washington, which referred all differences growing out of the war for the Union to a joint commission for arbitration. Mr. Sumner had another plan for the settlement of our claims against Great Britain, and set himself to defeat the plan of the President and Mr. Fish. In January, 1870, Mr. Fish sent to Mr. Sumner the memorandum of Sir John Rose, who represented the British government in the matter, in which was outlined a basis of settlement. Senator Sumner returned the memorandum with a note to the effect that the only basis of settlement with Great Britain was that it

should cede Canada to us, and withdraw its flag from this hemisphere. General Grant had looked with favor upon the proposition to receive Canada as restitution for the Alabama claims, provided the Canadians favored the plan. But at that time he was as earnestly in favor of an adjustment of the claims and differences by arbitration as was Secretary Fish. The secretary saw in the note of Mr. Sumner a purpose to antagonize the proposition to arbitrate. Mr. Adams says:

The natural, indeed the only, inference to be drawn from the memorandum was that the chairman of the Senate committee on foreign relations intended to put an immediate stop to the proposed negotiation, if in his power to do so. The issue presented was clear and not to be evaded. Was the executive to shape the foreign policy of the United States, or was it to receive its inspiration from the room of the committee on foreign relations?

When Secretary Fish took the Sumner note to President Grant he resented Mr. Sumner's interference with the affairs of the State Department and promptly instructed Mr. Fish to go to Sir John Rose and advise him that the administration was prepared to accept the proposal for a conference involving a joint commission to make a treaty which should prepare the way to settle the differences existing between the two countries. To carry out this policy it was necessary that the chairman of the Senate foreign committee should be in accord with the administration instead of fighting it. This representation was made to the Republican Senate, and when the committees were revised, March 9, 1870, Mr. Sumner's name was dropped. May 10 following the treaty of Washington was presented to the Senate, and on May 24 was reported back without amendment for ratification. If Mr. Sumner had been at the head of the committee on foreign relations he would have held back the treaty if he could not defeat it, and thus prevent the carrying into effect of its provisions. If the differences between the two countries involving the losses of thousands of American citizens were to be settled by arbitration it was essential to the success of that plan that Mr. Sumner should be deposed. Mr. Sumner's intolerant autocracy had so long exasperated his colleagues in the Senate that most of them, regardless of party affiliation, were pleased to have him deposed. But Mr. Sumner's friends cried out that he was a martyr to principle and had been deposed because a General-President had a grudge against him. As Mr. Sumner's friends made the biographies of the time, the real cause of his removal from the chairmanship has not been so generally presented. The facts show that Mr. Sumner was deposed because he was determined to defeat the President's and Mr. Fish's policy of arbitration—the first time that method was employed by two great nations. The biographers are in error. General Grant was determined to avert a war with Great Britain; the General-President was a man of peace. The oratorical Sumner urged a settlement which would have involved the two nations in a war. He had with his ideas that he presented them as those of the President, thus ignoring the President and his pacific policy, for which he was removed. Enraged by the President and determined to press his own warlike policy, it was an absolute necessity of the situation to depose Mr. Sumner.

So many years after the event, when war advocates were disposed to charge General Grant with servility to Great Britain, it now appears that his persistence in securing the Geneva court of arbitration, the first ever held, involved the highest statesmanship. As the years pass the vast importance of that service is more and more recognized, so that many thoughtful people will agree with the judgment expressed by General Black in his appreciative review of the character and deeds of General Grant before the Loyal Legion Friday night—that in securing the arbitration of our differences with Great Britain "he paved the way for the settlement of the difficulties of the world, which was the greatest achievement in the life of the greatest soldier of his time."

CONCERNING POETRY.
The subject of poetry has come up for discussion in various literary quarters lately. An anonymous person, writing to the New York Times Saturday Review for instruction in the art of making poetry, is advised by that paper to apply to the editors of magazines for information. If he can secure from those gentlemen the rules and specifications by which they judge the verse they print in their respective publications the aspirant may, the Times-Review editor thinks, get a set of working specifications by which he can produce a marketable commodity. The Review editor confesses, however, that he does not believe he can find such help as he is seeking? Mr. W. D. Howells certainly throws no light upon the matter. He considers the subject of poetry in the current number of Harper's Magazine, not with a view of aiding a novice, but to reply to a correspondent who asks if poetry is declining in quality. He is obviously of opinion that it is so declining, a conclusion he may reasonably have reached through the reading of his own and other magazines—but he admits a possibility that the spirit and love of poetry still exist in as great strength as ever, and leaves the question for his readers to decide from such phenomena as they may be able to observe.

The Journal will not undertake to solve Mr. Howells's problem, but does not hesitate to say that the indifference of the reading public to most of the current verse, and especially magazine verse, is by no means an indication that it does not like poetry, or that it would not receive it joyfully if it were offered. It is true, doubtless, that the practical, commercial tendencies of the age lessen the disposition to indulge in sentiment and affect aesthetic tastes in various ways, but it is also true that such tastes have little chance for gratification or development through what is presented them in the pages of the literary periodicals. Lovers of poetry must look to their libraries, to the earlier writers, when they wish to satisfy their liking for the best, or they may now and then find in newspapers and publications that do not boast literary supremacy verse that appeals to them and meets their needs. Perhaps the magazine editors would claim in regard to the latter that its admirers do not know true poetry, but the fact remains that at least one poet, now acknowledged as genuine by all magazine editors and wel-

comed to their pages, was known to and loved by a wide public through his newspaper contributions long before the magazines recognized his existence. The secret of this poet's popularity is the human interest contained in his writings. The secret of the indifference of the public to most of the verse offered to them in beautiful typography, and often with accompanying illustrations to attract the eye, is that it lacks the human interest and deals with some vague, illusive sentiment or thought on which the writer himself seems to have but slight grasp.

A Philadelphia paper lately reported a discussion among a group of men of literary tastes over the difference between poetry and verse. One of the number told of a wakeful hour in the night preceding, when a train of thought seemed running through his mind. In desperation he wrote the following:

A cry in the night,
But soft, like a sigh,
A whisper from a soul that pauses in its flight.

Between earth and sky,
And thus, with something of regret,
To where the nights and days
Must come and go and tire and fret
The prisoners of life.

When asked what the lines meant, the writer replied, "I haven't the slightest idea. This is why I claim it is poetry." He had reasons for his claim if he measured his production by magazine verse, for a match for it can be found in any leading literary periodical in any month. The verse, much of it, in these publications, means nothing. Here is a sample taken from Harper:

Time washes up along our shore,
A vast, calm sea;
And I have learned the weight of tears,
Shin' color and the length of years,
The strife of things to be.

The sound is there, but the sense is elusive.

The public likes musical verse, just as it likes melody in musical compositions, and innumerable writers can produce such verse, but there must be an element of life in them beyond rhyme and rhythm, something to appeal to the heart, to uplift the soul and the imagination, else the writers have wasted their labor. Many have learned the technicalities of verse writing, but the old truth remains, never truer than now, that the poet is born, not made.

The American people, as much as the United States Senate, were disgraced and humiliated by the collision in the Senate of the two South Carolina senators; and if the Senate feels the humiliation as keenly as do the self-respecting and government-respecting people of the country, it will expel Tillman without delay and severely reprimand McLaurin. Scarcely a week passes that Tillman does not make an exhibition of the blackguard and bully he is. His attacks upon President Cleveland are brutal, as have been his assaults upon all with whom he disagrees. The man who boasted in the Senate that he and his faction in South Carolina shot American citizens to intimidate them so that they would not vote, should have caused his expulsion from the Senate. Now that he has assaulted with blows his colleague, he should be expelled at once, and if returned as a vindication, he should be refused a seat on the ground that he is unfit to be a senator or to associate with senators. Mr. McLaurin should be reprimanded for using the language he did. In all respects a better man than Tillman, he should be made to understand that in the Senate of the United States the language he used is such a breach of decency that the man who applies it to another senator, no matter what the provocation, will not be allowed to do so with impunity. But Tillman should be expelled because he is a low and brutal blackguard.

The uprisings in the cities of Spain are the protest of force against vicious government. Spain's government is not based upon the theory of advantage to the masses, but is for the few. It is not based upon popular rights, and it does not recognize them. Spain and the Spanish provinces have always been managed for the advantage of the few. The idle few have been growing poorer because of the thriftless methods of caring for landed estates. The soil of Spain is worn out, and its agricultural classes, like those of Italy, are victims of hopeless poverty. Without schools or the highest technical skill its industries have fallen behind those of the nations which lead and control. With low wages, without machinery and little opening for its products outside of the limited home demand Spain's condition is about as deplorable as it can well be. The ignorant and impoverished working people naturally turn to assaults upon the authorities, who turn a deaf ear to their complaints of wrongs endured. Having the army and men like Weyler to use it, the risings of the masses will be subdued. There seems to be no hope for such governments and peoples as Spain's. The panacea would offer to popular government. It would fail; indeed, it has failed, since a better and more intelligent people are needed for popular government than the Spaniards.

The central idea in Senator Beveridge's brilliant address yesterday is that "the message of Washington's life to the American people is discipline." He was, above all things, a self-contained man. He was possessed of that deliberate courage which is not broken by disaster or elated by success. Duty was the keynote of his action, and where duty led he followed. His self-poise kept him the even, self-reliant man he was through seven years of war and enabled him to pursue his patriotic course while President when involved with grave perils. If there is one thing which the Palazios of Rome is for sale. He says he will never part with it.

Mr. Frank Harris, ex-editor of the Saturday Review, finds himself unable to call the modern writer of romance a "novelist." Too dignified is the name for him, so he falls back on "fictionist" and "purveyor of the fabulous."

He who runs may read, says the New York Tribune, but he must not therefore attempt to be critical. An incautious English reviewer has lately noticed a copy of William Blake's "Songs of Innocence," and has written in his article as "a young writer of some promise."

Oxford University claims Mr. Swinburne. Mr. Quiller Couch, Mr. Anthony Hope, Mr. Andrew Lang, Mr. Henry James, Mr. W. H. Mallock and Mr. Stephen Phillips, of Cambridge, Mr. Alfred Austin, Mr. Barling-Gould, Mr. A. E. W. Mason, Mr. Max Pemberton, Mr. G. A. Henty and Mr. Marion Crawford.

Some time ago it was noticed by an admirer of Rudyard Kipling that his famous poem, "On the Road to Mandalay," went very well to the tune of "The Wearing of the Green." On pointing this out to the poet, Mr. Kipling replied: "Oh, yes, frequently take a well-known song, hum it over for a few minutes, and then write words to the tune."

The house of the Count de Chamont at Le Rayville, the house where Eagle de

leges and universities are admirably adapted to the needs of the country. "They are not inferior to those of Germany," he says, "only different, as the country is different. I have read in the American magazines that the education of the United States is inferior to that of Germany, that larger institutions are needed, etc.; but personally I do not believe this. It is said by your own magazines, and not by foreign ones." Dr. Waentig is impressed by the results of higher education among American women—a branch of education which he was directed particularly to investigate. He thinks the women of the United States have greater influence on the civilization of the country than those of any other country have.

Senators or representatives sometimes introduce "by request" bills for which they are in no way responsible. Senator Mason, of Illinois, has just introduced in that way a bill which provides for the creation of a department of physical culture, whose head is to be a member of the Cabinet. The bill provides that there shall be in each State a commissioner of physical culture at a salary of \$4,000, who is to prepare plans for play grounds, gymnasiums, parks, public baths and other facilities for physical culture compatible with public health, and to have general charge of such matters within the State limits. To defray the expenses of the department the bill authorizes the issue of a special currency to circulate as money. The bill is chiefly interesting as showing how many different kinds of cranks there are in a population of 75,000,000 people.

Mr. Thomas Russell Sullivan, of Boston, will speak to the Contemporary Club Wednesday evening on "The Writing of a Story." Mr. Sullivan should be a competent witness on this subject, as he is a story writer of long experience and was from the beginning of the new Scribner's Magazine one of its most popular and versatile contributors of short fiction. He has written also much art and literary criticism. Mr. Sullivan's books include two volumes of "Day and Night Stories," and of the stories included in these books two, at least, are to be named among the best short stories that have been written in this country. They are "The Lost Rembrandt" and "Out of New England Granite." Mr. Sullivan wrote formerly a good deal for the stage. It is his version of Stevenson's "Jekyll and Hyde" which Mansfield gave, and he wrote also "Nero," an elaborate play given about ten years ago by the same actor. Mr. Sullivan began life as a banker, first in Boston and later in Paris. For many years he has occupied himself with literature, and he is one of the best known men in the social and literary circles of Boston.

The Journal, after prolonged observation of the smoke-blackened rag that passes for the stars and stripes on the monument flag staff, is led to suggest the propriety of removing both staff and flag from that place. The monument needs no such token to indicate its character. It is in itself a patriotic emblem. It speaks for itself. The flag is superfluous. It is never needed there, but, at least, let it be taken down until soot and smoke are less prevalent.

A New York paper announces that the demand for book agents exceeds the supply. Not in this neighborhood, esteemed contemporary, not here.

THE HUMORISTS.
Her Economy.
Wife—I've done nothing but practice economy ever since we were married.
Husband—And I've had to pay for it.

Evidence of Shock.
Judge.
Ethel—Were you very much surprised to meet

Blanche—Surprised? Why, I didn't notice what she had on!

Interesting and Exciting.
The Smart Set.
A large crowd gathered in front of your house this morning. Worried; what was the matter?

"I was discharging the cook."

Important.
"Do you think that a woman should dictate to her husband?"
"Of course," answered the tactful woman.
"But she should have the skill to conceal the fact that she is doing so."

One Thing Sure.
Philadelphia Record.
"I tell you," cried the Jingo, "the United States could lick any power in the world."

"Well," replied the man who was wearing at the climate, "we can never be weakened by any other country."

The Verdict.
New York Sun.
"He stole a Texas pony," said Derringer Bill.
"What shall we do about it?"
"Mustang!" shouted the rest of the Gory Gulch outfit, for you must know, dear reader, that life on the far West does not destroy the innate sense of American humor.

George's Object.
Baltimore American.
With lusty strokes of his toy hatchet little George Washington laid the stately cherry tree in the dust.
"So much for the schoolbooks," he observed.
"Later on I shall do a few stunts for the benefit of the historical novelists."

LITERARY NOTES.
"Studies in Cheerfulness" is the title of Max O'Rell's forthcoming book. Mr. O'Rell's latest work is a "novel" in French and his wife, an Englishwoman, translates them.

William Henry Bishop, the novelist and instructor of Spanish at Yale, has resigned. He will remove to Spain, where he will remain for some time and devote himself to literary work.

Robert Barrett Browning contradicts the widely published statement that the Venetian home of his famous parents, the Palazzo Bembo, is for sale. He says he will never part with it.

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The house of the Count de Chamont at Le Rayville, the house where Eagle de

Ferrier—Mrs. Catherwood's heroine in "Lazarre"—lived before her journey to France, is still standing; and it is now inhabited by a Mr. Pielow. The old mansion was purchased, together with all the old mahogany, velvet, rug, china, linen, silver, all its furnishings, by the late Mrs. Pielow, who was the daughter of the present owner, from Count de Chamont when he returned to his native land.

Miss Agnes Repplier has given the degree of Belles Lettres by the University of Pennsylvania. The degree is one held by very few women. Fourteen years have elapsed since the clever and versatile Philadelphia published her first work, "Books and Men." Her most recent book, "The Fireside Sphinx," has been very successful, the publishers report. Philadelphia was probably the last place where it was possible to discover Miss Repplier, but is finally showing its appreciation.

No man is prophetic in his own home. Edward Fitzgerald's posthumous play, "Omar Khayyam," was first published by Mr. Bernard Quaritch in 1899 at 5 shillings, and proved a hopeless failure. Mr. Swinburne writes of it: "As to the immortal tentative of himself, I believe it is due to the one of his earliest English believers. It is upwards of thirty-six years since I was introduced to him by D. G. Rossetti, who had just been introduced himself—I believe by Mr. Whitley Stokes. At that time the first and best editions of Fitzgerald's wonderful version was being sold out at a penny a copy—having proved hopelessly unsaleable at the publishers' price."

The approaching double wedding of Ellen Thorneycroft Fowler, the vivacious novelist, and her sister Edith, who is also a writer of fiction, is announced from Wolverhampton, England, where they dwell with their father, Sir Henry Fowler, a prominent member of Parliament and a man of large influence in British politics, though he is now out of sorts with the maintenance of the Liberal party, which he belongs. Ellen Fowler will marry Alfred Felkin, of the faculty of the Royal Naval College, and Edith will marry Mr. W. R. Hamilton, vicar of the parish church of St. Andrew, in the city of London. Mr. Hamilton is a pronounced radical, while his prospective father-in-law is a Wesleyan Methodist.

A sketch of James Lane Allen in the New York Times has this paragraph: "If the writer were to add one last word in summing up the impression which Mr. James Lane Allen as man and author conveys, he would say unhesitatingly, distinctive. It is that personality which such unique and distinctive expression both physically and mentally. This, in fact, erects the writer against the eye, and the writer has not infrequently seen it happen on Piccadilly or Broadway. His figure has become familiar to New Yorkers for during the last six or seven years he has been a constant sight in the city. His old enduring love for the country abides, and he is never long indifferent to the soil, so that he is almost as often out of New York as in it."

ABOUT PEOPLE AND THINGS.
Mrs. Alfred Harmsworth, wife of the London publisher, has made a sensation in Paris by appearing in a most novel automobile coat, made of the hide of a perfectly white goat, trimmed with sable tails.

Jonesboro, a new village now being laid out at Fort Lee, five miles from Richmond, Va., is to be populated by negroes only. The site consists of 800 acres, cut up into building lots, a park, orchards, grazing lands and small farms for trucking.

Gilbert Parker, the novelist, has given a collection of portraits of the Governors of Canada to Queen's University at Kingston, where he was formerly a teacher of elocution. He intends that the collection shall form the nucleus of a museum of painted and documents illustrating Canadian history.

It is not generally known that the German Empress is a sculptor and painter of more than usual ability. In her husband's study at Potsdam there is a lifelike portrait of the Emperor in bronze, and several of the young princes have also been reproduced in marble. Many sketches by paintings by Empress adorn the walls of the various palaces.

The households and establishments of the late Empress Frederick of Germany, at Cronberg and at Berlin, have been broken up. The members of her household and her old servants have been pensioned from Jan. 1. Her palace near the opera house in Berlin reverts to her grandson, the crown prince, and will be thoroughly repaired and redecorated during the next year.

The Rev. Dr. David Gregg, pastor of the Lafayette Avenue Presbyterian Church, of Brooklyn, has asked the trustees of the church to cut his salary from \$10,000 to \$8,000 a year. Dr. Gregg, who is one of the best known and most popular clergymen in Brooklyn, has been pastor of this church many years. Mr. Gregg's reason for his request is that he does not believe a man should receive a salary greater than he is worth.

Capt. F. W. Dickinson, of the cruiser Brooklyn, was in Westminster Abbey the other day saying the words of the prayer book to see the bust of Charles Dickens. He is a sort of namesake; only my branch of the family spells the name somewhat differently. "Ah, is that so?" replied the captain. "Well, you know, I was the reply, and the two shook hands."

The Washington Times has raised the price of its morning edition from one to two cents and the price of its Sunday edition to five cents. Mr. Munsey's explanation of the change is a time when the paper's tendency for newspapers—that in a city of the size of Washington a first-class morning paper or a first-class Sunday paper cannot be produced at a profit at the old rates.

The price of the Washington Post has been raised from three to four cents, and that of the Washington Star from two to three cents.

Herbert Spencer, the great English sociologist and philosopher, has been a game of billiards. At the Reform Club in London he recently met an acquaintance whom he invited to play with him. The young member accepted and Mr. Spencer said joyfully as he chalked his cue: "Young man, I have been playing billiards for a well-balanced mind." "I believe it is," replied the young man. They played and the great writer was completely defeated. He had only scored 38 when his young antagonist finished his 100. Herbert Spencer put the cue away in disgust and said: "Such fine billiard playing as yours is the proof of an ill-spent youth."

A Cuban says, in the Washington Post, that the family name of the new president of Cuba is Estrada, and not Palma. Estrada was his father's family name and Palma his mother's. Following the Spanish custom he writes it Estrada Palma, but he should be addressed as President Estrada, and not as President Palma. The old-fashioned way of writing it was Tomas Estrada y Palma, but only the highest and oldest Spanish aristocracy and the lowest and most ignorant of the new use the y. The mass of Cubans have abandoned it, and those who have much business with Americans are dropping it entirely. Palma, the way, is pronounced Pal-ma, with the l sounded.

WISDOM OF CURRENT FICTION.
The stock market's a good place to keep out of, particularly if you're in it.—J. Devlin-Boss.

Enterprises are profitable to the promoter in proportion as their workings are hid from outsiders.—J. Devlin-Boss.

Some people, like some shrubs, must be crushed in order to obtain the real value of their essence.—By the Higher Law.

"Don't let Nellie forget me," he said, and the graver carved on his tombstone, "Remember me."—The Debatable Land.

"I'd like to be an idiot," they're nawthin' so hard as mindin' yo' own business, an' an idiot never has to do that.—Mr. Dooley.